

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7524

BILL NUMBER: HB 1508

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 10, 2011

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Student Instructional Time.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Pond

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides that a school year consists of at least 920 hours for grades 1 through 6, and 1,100 hours for grades 7 through 12. It amends the formula for determining a reduction in tuition support for a school corporation that does not conduct the minimum number of hours and a provision concerning the waiver from the reduction.

Effective Date: July 1, 2011.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill could reduce the possible recovery of tuition support from schools that do not meet the required instruction time. Current law provides a reduction in tuition support for each day under the 180-day requirement. The bill changes the requirement to be based on a minimum number of days to a calculation based on student instructional hours. Schools that do not provide the minimum of hours will have their tuition support reduced by the number of hours they were below the minimum instructional hours.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: The bill would allow schools to modify the school calendar from the current 180-day minimum school year to a different calendar. The bill increases instruction time for grades 1 to 12 by about 20 hours each year. The student instructional hours equate to about 184 instructional days, based on a 5 hour instructional day in grades 1 to 6, and 183.33 instructional days, based on a 6 hour instructional day in grades 7 to 12.

The change in the number of required hours could impact administrative costs of schools depending on whether they conduct classes on more or fewer days than the current 180 day requirement. The average teacher's salary for the 2010 school year was about \$47,000. Schools spent about \$37.8 M per day from the school general fund and \$2.8 M per day to transport students to school during the 2010 school year. Utility and school lunch expenditures may also be impacted if the number of days are changed.

The bill could reduce local school expenditures depending on if a school chooses to reduce the number of instructional days in the school calendar due to inclement weather. Schools that currently have to make up lost days due to weather conditions or lose tuition support revenue might not have to as long as they had 920 hours of instruction for Grades 1-6 and 1,100 hours of instruction for Grades 7-12.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education.

Local Agencies Affected: Schools.

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Chuck Mayfield, 317-232-4825.